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--This application claims priority of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/105,348 filed October 23, 1998.--

Please replace the paragraph under "FIELD OF THE INVENTION", beginning at page 1, line 8, with the following paragraph:

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--Generally, the invention relates to the field of compounds, especially peptides and polypeptides, that have thrombopoietic activity. The compounds of the invention may be used to increase production of platelets or platelet precursors (e.g., megakaryocytes) in a mammal.--

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 16 and 24 as indicated below.

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16. (Amended) The compound according to Claim 1, which is selected from the group consisting of

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|---|------------------|
| IEGPTLRQWLAARA-GPNG-IEGPTLRQWLAARA | (SEQ. ID NO: 10) |
| IEGPTLRQCLAARA-GGGGGGGG-IEGPTLRQCLAARA (cyclic)
 _____ | (SEQ. ID NO: 11) |
| IEGPTLRQCLAARA-GGGGGGGG-IEGPTLRQCLAARA (linear) | (SEQ. ID NO: 12) |
| IEGPTLRQALAARA-GGGGGGGG-IEGPTLRQALAARA | (SEQ. ID NO: 13) |
| IEGPTLRQWLAARA-GGGKGGGG-IEGPTLRQWLAARA | (SEQ. ID NO: 14) |
| IEGPTLRQWLAARA-GGGK(BrAc)GGGG-IEGPTLRQWLAARA | (SEQ. ID NO: 15) |
| IEGPTLRQWLAARA-GGGCGGGG-IEGPTLRQWLAARA | (SEQ. ID NO: 16) |
| IEGPTLRQWLAARA-GGGK(PEG)GGGG-IEGPTLRQWLAARA | (SEQ. ID NO: 17) |
| IEGPTLRQWLAARA-GGGC(PEG)GGGG-IEGPTLRQWLAARA | (SEQ. ID NO: 18) |

IEGPTLRQWLAARA-GGGNGSGG-IEGPTLRQWLAARA (SEQ. ID NO: 19)

IEGPTLRQWLAARA-GGGCGGGG-IEGPTLRQWLAARA

IEGPTLRQWLAARA-GGGCGGGG-IEGPTLRQWLAARA (SEQ. ID NO: 20);

IEGPTLRQWLAARA-GGGGGGGG-IEGPTLRQWLAARA (SEQ. ID NO: 21).

24. (Amended) A compound that binds to an mpl receptor, which is selected from the group consisting of

Fc-IEGPTLRQWLAARA-GPNG-IEGPTLRQWLAARA (SEQ. ID NO: 22)

Fc-IEGPTLRQWLAARA-GPNG-IEGPTLRQWLAARA-Fc (SEQ. ID NO: 23)

IEGPTLRQWLAARA-GGGGGGGG-IEGPTLRQWLAARA-Fc (SEQ. ID NO: 24)

Fc-GG-IEGPTLRQWLAARA-GPNG-IEGPTLRQWLAARA (SEQ. ID NO: 25)

Fc-IEGPTLRQWLAARA-GGGGGGGG-IEGPTLRQWLAARA (SEQ. ID NO: 26)

Fc-IEGPTLRQCLAARA-GGGGGGGG-IEGPTLRQCLAARA (cyclic) (SEQ. ID NO: 27)

Fc-IEGPTLRQCLAARA-GGGGGGGG-IEGPTLRQCLAARA (linear) (SEQ. ID NO: 28)

Fc-IEGPTLRQALAARA-GGGGGGGG-IEGPTLRQALAARA (SEQ. ID NO: 29)

Fc-IEGPTLRQWLAARA-GGGKGGGG-IEGPTLRQWLAARA (SEQ. ID NO: 30)

Fc-IEGPTLRQWLAARA-GGGCGGGG-IEGPTLRQWLAARA (SEQ. ID NO: 31)

Fc-IEGPTLRQWLAARA-GGGNGSGG-IEGPTLRQWLAARA (SEQ. ID NO: 32)

Fc-IEGPTLRQWLAARA-GGGCGGGG-IEGPTLRQWLAARA

Fc-IEGPTLRQWLAARA-GGGCGGGG-IEGPTLRQWLAARA (SEQ. ID NO: 33)